Harvey Weinstein

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Background

Wikipedia

Harvey Weinstein, CBE (born March 19, 1952) is an American film producer and film studio executive. He is best known as co-founder of Miramax, which produced several popular independent films including Pulp Fiction, Sex, Lies and Videotape, The Crying Game and Clerks. He and his brother Bob have been co-chairmen of The Weinstein Company, their film production company, since 2005. He won an Academy Award for producing Shakespeare in Love, and garnered seven Tony Awards for producing a variety of winning plays and musicals, including The Producers, Billy Elliot the Musical, and August: Osage County.

From 1980s: Success with arthouse and independent films

Also in 1989, Miramax released two art-house films, The Cook, the Thief, His Wife & Her Lover and director Pedro Almodóvar's film Tie Me Up! Tie Me Down!, both of which the MPAA rating board gave an X-rating, effectively stopping nationwide release for these films. Weinstein sued the MPAA over the rating system. His lawsuit was later thrown out, but got the MPAA to agree to introduce the new NC-17 rating.

From Praise and criticism

In 2004, Weinstein was appointed an honourary Commander of the Order of the British Empire in recognition of his contributions to the British film industry (the award being "honourary" because he is a citizen of the United States). Weinstein's aggressive efforts to campaign for Oscars for his films during Oscar season led to a ban on such campaigns by the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences.

Weinstein has also cultivated a reputation for ruthlessness and fits of anger. According to Biskind, Weinstein once put a New York Observer reporter in a headlock while throwing him out of a party. On another occasion, Weinstein excoriated director Julie Taymor and her husband during a disagreement over a test screening of her movie Frida.

In a 2004 piece, in New York magazine, Weinstein appeared somewhat repentant for his often aggressive discussions with directors and producers. However, a Newsweek story on October 13, 2008, criticized Weinstein, who was accused of "hassling Sydney Pollack on his deathbed" about the release of the film The Reader. After Weinstein offered \$1 million to charity if the accusation could be proven, journalist Nikki Finke published an email sent by Scott Rudin on August 22 asserting that Weinstein "harassed" Anthony Minghella's widow and a bedridden Pollack until Pollack's family asked him to stop.

In September 2009, Weinstein publicly voiced opposition to efforts to extradite Roman Polanski from Switzerland to the U.S. regarding 1977 charges of unlawful sexual intercourse with a 13-year-old, to which Polanski had pleaded guilty before fleeing the country. Weinstein, whose company had distributed a film about the Polanski case, questioned whether Polanski committed any crime, prompting Los Angeles County District Attorney Steve Cooley to insist that Polanski's guilty plea indicated that his action was a crime, and that several other serious charges were pending.

In March 2012 Weinstein was made a Chevalier (knight) of the Ordre des Arts et des Lettres by the French Consulate in New York City in recognition of Miramax's efforts to increase the presence and popularity of foreign films in the United States.

Additional Relevant Facts

Sex abuse allegation by 22 year old Italian model. [1] Confirming he touched her [2] [3]

Relationship to #Pizzagate

Connection to convicted pedophile, Roman Polanski

Organizing Public Appearance for Polanski

Harvey Weinstein setup a rare public appearance for convicted pedophile director, Roman Polanski.

From the Wrap article, *Roman Polanski Makes Rare Public Appearance at Harvey Weinstein's Screening of 'Big Eyes' in Gstaad (Exclusive)*, by Matt Donnelly, published on December 29th, 2014:[4]

The Monday evening screening was held at the luxurious new Alpina Hotel, drawing RSVPs from deep-pocketed art collectors.

Polanski's attendance marks a rare outing for the director, who recently lost a bid to dismiss sexual assault charges from 1977 that would allow his reentry to the United States.

Amy Adams on the Lesson of 'Big Eyes': You Don't Have to Be Loud to be Strong

At the time, Polanski was charged with raping 13-year-old Samantha Geimer. He accepted a plea bargain and was serving time for psychiatric evaluation. Upon learning a judge intended to hand down additional jail time, he fled the country before final sentencing, settling in France.

"Big Eyes," which features a buzzworthy performance from Amy Adams as painter Margaret Keane, also attracted the influential art set. European collector families like the Manoukians, the Amons, Peter Soros and Olivier Berggruen were represented, as well as Chopard's Caroline Scheufele.

The last-minute shindig comes on the heels of the film's Italian premiere on the island of Capri.

It should be noted that the island of Capri was known in Roman times as the site of Emperor Tiberius' most depraved acts of pedophilia, including sex acts with toddlers.[5]

Additional Source:[6]

Vocal support for dropping charges against Polanski

From Wikipedia: [7]

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In his written plea referenced, published in the Independent, he has one particularly notable line regarding Polanski's conviction for raping a 13-year-old Samantha Gailey:[8]

Whatever you think about the so-called crime...

Additional Referenced Sources:[9], [10]

Connection to convicted sex offender, Jeffrey Epstein

Additionally, the contact information for Bob Weinstein, Harvey's brother who he operates the Weinstein Company with, is also listed in Epstein's "Little Black Book."

Epstein urgent desire to attend Weinstein's Polanski screening [11]

Connection to alleged statutory rapist, Ronald Burkle

From Vanity Fair article, *How Harvey Got His Groove Back*, by Bryan Burrough, published in March 2011:[12]

Last winter Harvey met with a series of potential partners, including Henry Kravis's KKR. He finally cut a deal with Ron Burkle, the Southern California investor. As an aide remembers it, "Burkle looked Harvey in the eye and said, 'If you want this, I want this.' " Fortress, a big hedge fund, signed up to furnish the rest of the purchase price.

Connection to Robert De Niro Connection to Charlie Sheen [13][14][15]

Connection to Peter Soros

Invitation for Soros to exclusive and rare Polanski public appearance Peter Soros was invited by Weinstein to an exclusive event and very rare public appearance of convicted pedophile, Roman Polanski.Peter Soros was at a rare public appearance of pedophile film director, Roman Polanski. From the Wrap article, Roman Polanski Makes Rare Public Appearance at Harvey Weinstein's Screening of 'Big Eyes' in Gstaad (Exclusive), by Matt Donnelly, published on December 29th, 2014.

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Additional Source: [16]

Peter Soros' ties to Weinstein's friend, Jeffrey Epstein

This connection to Peter Soros is more significant because Weinstein is also friends with sex offender Jeffrey Epstein, who is friends with Peter Soros. Peter Soros was someone Epstein house butler, Alfredo Rodriguez, said had key knowledge regarding Jeffrey Epstein's illicit activities with underage girls. [17]

Connection to statutory rapist and disgraced Italian Prime Minister, Silvio Berlusconi

Victim in groping scandal was also was molested by Silvio Berlusconi.

Jeffrey Epstein's ties to Berlusconi's best friend, Flavio Briatore This connection is more significant because Weinstein is also friends with sex offender Jeffrey Epstein, who was friends with Flavio Briatore, who was best friends with Berlusconi. Flavio Briatore was someone Epstein house butler, Alfredo Rodriguez, said had key knowledge regarding Jeffrey Epstein's illicit activities with underage girls.